



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Seiji HIROSHIMA et al.

Serial No.: 09/737,279

Group Art Unit: 3683

Filed: December 14, 2000

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GROUP 3683

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 20313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Three of these references, (US 5,295,920; US 4,820,243; and JP 63-201255 U) were cited in an office action for a corresponding German patent application. Copies of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom, and that an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc A. Rossi
Registration No. 31,923

Date: _____

Attorney Docket No.: MTS:024